30 August 2010

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Committee on Conferences

Substantive session of 2010

Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Barbara **Kaudel** (Austria)

Organizational matters

A. Membership

1. In its resolution 43/222 B, the General Assembly decided to retain the Committee on Conferences as a permanent subsidiary organ. Pursuant to the provisions of that resolution, in 2010 the Committee was composed of the following Member States: Argentina, Austria, China, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Germany, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Mozambique, Nigeria, Panama, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the United States of America and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.[1]

B. Officers

2. At its organizational session for 2010 (504th meeting), held on 30 March 2010, the Committee elected the following officers to serve in 2010:

Chair:
Claudia **Corti** (Argentina)

Vice-Chairs:
Jun **Yamada** (Japan)
George Morara **Orina** (Kenya)

Rapporteur:
Barbara **Kaudel** (Austria)

3. At the same session, the Committee agreed in principle that the Chair would undertake informal consultations with a view to determining the composition of its

[1] One Vice-Chair from the Eastern European States is to be appointed, and one member from the Eastern European States is to be appointed (see A/65/107 and A/AC.172/2010/INF/1).

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2011 Bureau and that the outgoing Chair and members of the Bureau would continue in their capacity until the 2011 Bureau was elected.

C. Organization of work

4. Also at its organizational session, the Committee agreed to follow the guidelines adopted in 1994 and 1995 with regard to its consideration of intersessional departures from the approved calendar of conferences and to meet, as required, to review proposals affecting the schedule of conferences and meetings during sessions of the General Assembly.

5. At the same meeting, the Chair proposed that an additional meeting be held in order for the Committee to review the proposed strategic framework for the period 2012-2013 in its capacity as the oversight body for programme 1: General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management (A/65/6 (Prog. 1)). At the 505th meeting, held on 28 April 2010, the Committee reviewed the proposed strategic framework. The recommendations of the Committee were transmitted in a letter dated 13 May 2010 from the Chair of the Committee on Conferences to the Chair of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and were issued in a note by the Secretariat on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2010-2011: review of part two: biennial programme plan by sectoral, functional and regional bodies (see E/AC.51/2010/CRP.1, annex).

6. The Committee convened its substantive session from 30 August to 3 September 2010 (506th to 509th meetings).

7. At the organizational session on 30 March, the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management addressed the Committee. At the meeting on 28 April 2010, the Under-Secretary-General introduced the proposed strategic framework (A/65/6 (Prog. 1)). At the opening of the substantive session on 30 August, he introduced the report of the Secretary-General on the pattern of conferences (A/65/122). At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Austria, Mexico and the Russian Federation.

D. Programme of work

8. At its organizational session for 2009 (497th meeting), held on 7 April 2009, the Committee requested that the Secretariat submit the draft agenda for 2010 to the Committee at its organizational session for 2010. At its organizational session for 2010, the Committee adopted the agenda (A/AC.172/2010/L.1) and requested that the Secretariat submit the draft agenda for 2011 to the Committee at its organizational session for 2011.

E. Participation of observers

9. Seven Member States and one intergovernmental organization were represented as observers at the organizational and the substantive sessions of the Committee: Bangladesh, Cuba, Egypt, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, and the International Organization of la Francophonie.